



The ILLINOIS ENGINEER

ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
INCORPORATED

Affiliated with the National Society of Professional Engineers
614 East Green Street Champaign, Illinois



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SUMMER ISSUE

AUGUST, 1955

VOX SECRETARII

By P. E. ROBERTS, Executive Secretary

Ballots

As testimony to the fact that interest is running high in the balloting on the proposed changes in the Illinois Society Constitution, as this issue goes to press 540 ballots have been received. A tellers committee which will count the votes has been appointed by President Wallace. Polls close on Saturday, August 27th, therefore, if you have not already marked your ballot, please do so and mail it today.

Income and Salary Survey

National Society of Professional Engineers has published its 1955 Income and Salary Survey. Of the 34,000 questionnaires mailed in January, over 14,700 were received for a 43% response. The figures reveal that the chemical engineers made the greatest increase in income as compared to the survey taken in 1952. An over-all increase of about 7% from 1952 to 1954 is shown with the largest increase shown in the lower quartile (9.0%) and the smallest increase, as might be expected, in the upper decile (5.9%). Many other interesting figures and tables are given in the book. The price of the Salary and Income Survey, NSPE members, 50c, non-members, \$1.00. Order directly from National Society of Professional Engineers, 1121 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

Reinstatement of Dropped Members

NSPE has changed its By-Laws to permit those who have been dropped for non-payment of dues to return by payment of current year's dues plus a \$2.00 reinstatement fee. The former policy was a year's back dues plus current dues. To those who read this, if you know a former member who has been dropped, urge him to return to full professional status by resuming his Society obligations. \$22.00 for a National member, \$12.00 for an E-I-T. To make it as easy as possible, the Illinois Society Board of Direction has not yet applied a rein-

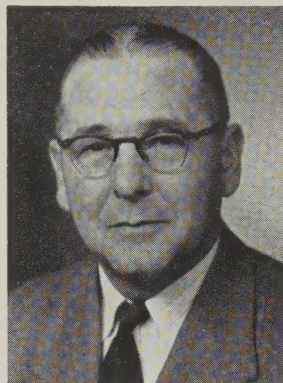
(Continued on page 2)

COST OF LIVING INDEX

The cost of living correction factor to be applied to the I. S. P. E. Schedule of Minimum Fees and Salaries is based upon the Consumer Price Index of the 1947-49 average as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. On the 1947-49 base the correction factor for June, 1955, is 114.4.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On July 23rd and 24th, I was "Studebakered" by "Skeet" Roberts to Caledonia, Mo., where we were royally entertained and fed by Mike Krause and the Members of the St. Clair Chapter.



PRESIDENT WALLACE

Mike has built a spacious summer home with an inside toilet, on the bank of a 40-acre private lake, which is well stocked with fish, moss, hoot owls, cactus, chiggers, etc. Incidentally, Larry Keenan, with the temperature at 100°, donned hip boots and without a shirt, picked blackberries. If Mrs. Keenan is a suspicious woman, the scratches on his arms and back might give cause for questions, therefore Larry, this is merely a confirmation in case you need it.

Mike has an outside grill and we had the pleasure of eating barbecued pork loin and T-bone steaks that will long be remembered for their flavor and size, together with corn by the bushel and all the trimmings.

Art Feickert, with the able assistance of several culinary-minded males, prepared the meals, eggs and bacon, pancakes, etc. However, by popular demand, in his official capacity as head cook, he donned a shirt instead of a hair net.

Some of the boys received a good sunburn, but probably survived. "Skeet" and I certainly appreciate the wonderful time we enjoyed, even though "Skeet" did make an unwilling monetary donation.

In closing, I am accepting any donations or contributions toward the purchase of a compass for "Skeet's" car. He sure could use one.

DWAIN M. WALLACE
President, ISPE

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$2.00 per year in advance to members of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers. \$4.00 per year in advance to non-members in U.S.A. and its possessions, Canada, and Mexico. Foreign \$6.00. Single copies 40c. Published by the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, Inc., at 614 East Green Street, Champaign, Illinois. Address all communications to the Illinois Society, P. E. Roberts, Editor, 614 East Green Street, Champaign, Illinois. The Illinois Society is not responsible for statements made or opinions expressed in this publication. Entered as Second Class Matter April 27, 1949, at the Post Office, Champaign, Illinois.

statement fee, therefore, all that is necessary is a check with a short letter asking for reinstatement. The Executive Secretary's office will handle the details.

Fourth Edition

The fourth edition of the Professional Engineering Examination Book Questions will be published on September 6th. Six new pages will be added to the third edition. Members of the Illinois Society will be able to bring their copies of the third edition up to date this Fall. In the ILLINOIS ENGINEER in September will be printed the six pages, not only as a convenience to its members, but also as a matter of record. The supply of the third edition is entirely exhausted. The fourth edition will be ready for distribution on September 6th, the price is \$1.50 postpaid. Use the coupon on page 4.

Membership Directory

Plans to republish the Illinois Society Membership Directory have been postponed for the present. The special committee named by President Wallace decided that the best way to finance the cost of the book was by individual Chapters. Several Chapters objected, some asked for more time, and some sent in checks. Rather than force a decision on any Chapter, it was decided to cancel the most favorable contract to print the Directory and abandon further plans to go ahead with the production at this time.

Refresher Course Classes

August is the month when refresher course classes in preparation for the Fall examination are planned. Five classes for professional engineers who will take the examination on November 29th and 30th are already set. Classes can begin as late as the week of September 6th and complete the 32 hours in the scheduled time of eleven weeks. If you are interested, please write the Executive Secretary's office, 614 East Green Street, Champaign, Illinois, at once.

A structural class is being planned for East St. Louis to begin about October 15th. More structural classes can be organized if the need is present. The structural examinations are given in September and March each year.

Items of Personal Interest

Chester A. Arentz, who has been with the Illinois Institute of Technology, has recently moved and is now Dean of the College of Engineering, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia.

Dewey R. Connor, formerly of Effingham and a member of Ambraw Chapter but for the past two years in Springfield, has taken over Don Magowan's desk as Chief of the City Section, Bureau of Public Roads, Springfield. Best wishes to Dewey in his new position.

Philip C. Will, Chicago, who has been Vice President of Hydro-Blast Corporation, has returned to his former association with Edwin Hancock Engineering Company, 1509 Jackson Blvd., Chicago 7. Mr. Will still lives at 208 North Humphrey, Oak Park.

VERMILION PLANT ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY

A preview of Illinois Power Company's newest off-spring, the Vermilion Power Plant, was held on July 16th as a "dry run" in preparation of the Open House which was held a month later.

The new plant is unique in that it is located away from a flowing stream and the condenser cooling water is recirculated after being air cooled in a very large cooling tower. The turbine bearings are cooled with hydrogen at 30 p.s.i. Coal for fuel is available in large quantities.

If you are interested in statistics, the plant is evaporating 530,000 pounds of water per hour; the gauge pressure is 1450 p.s.i.; coal consumption is about 650 tons per day; steam temperature is 1020 degrees Fahrenheit; generator rated capacity, 75,000 KW; Combustion Engineering, controlled circulation with 1-inch water walls; water pumped from a stream and impounded in a small lake with a capacity sufficient to run through a six months drought period; ash hydraulically handled and sluiced to an adjacent ravine; a total personnel of 79 employees operate the plant.

The controls are so delicate that if one induced fan should stop operating, for instance, the volume of steam would drop and the turbine generator would automatically cut back to the steam volume it was receiving. Of course, while all this is taking place, warning bells and red lights show on the main control board.

Before this unit was finished, construction on a new boiler-turbine-generator unit of 100,000 KW capacity was begun. The new unit will have a large new cooling tower and when completed, either of the units can be run separately or they can be run together.

The public viewed the new plant on August 13th and 14th. Open houses require much work and cost money, but they are a necessary part of a good public relations program.

Many a girl who seems to be throwing herself at a man is actually taking very good aim.

—English Dig.

Gossip: letting the cat out of the bag.

—Hugh W. Phillips.

Look at it this way, you don't lose a daughter in marriage, you gain a bathroom.

—Anon.

And then there was the gal who was so lazy she wouldn't even practice discretion.

—Kroehler Mfg. Co. News.

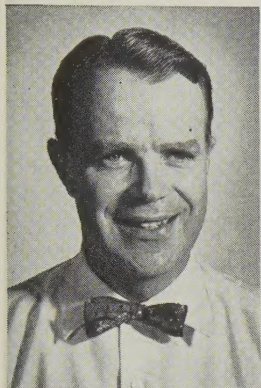
You aren't really old until nothing is fun enough to make you forget the weather.

—Rob't Quillan, *Lifetime Living*.

Know The Members of Your Board of Direction

In order that the members of the Illinois Society may learn more about those who are members of the governing body, this feature was begun in July. Here are four more members of the Board.

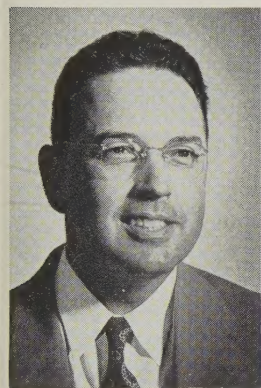
(Photos by C. Dale Greffe, furnished at no cost to the Society)



LeVerne D. Hudson

LeVerne D. Hudson, Capital Chapter, became a member of the Board at the beginning of the 71st year of the Illinois Society (April 1955). After earning a B.S. in Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois in 1936, Verne was employed by Greeley and Hanson, Chicago. He then became associated with the State of Illinois, Department of Public Health, where he is presently employed. His brother Herbert, Jr. and his father Herbert, Sr. are both members of

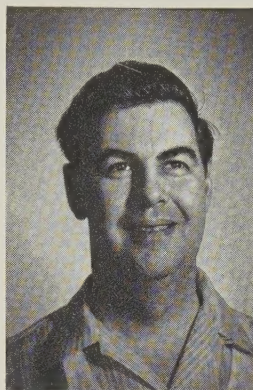
the Illinois Society. He has two Grade School age sons and for relaxation and recreation he plays the trombone.



Andrew W. Neureuther

Andrew W. (Andy) Neureuther, Central Illinois Chapter, is one of the new members of the Board, beginning his first term. He lives in Decatur and is Chief Engineer of A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company, one of the large grain processors in Illinois. The products manufactured by Staley would fill a page. The Company grew out of the prairie to a large number of buildings spread over a considerable area. Andy was a part of this growth, as he joined the

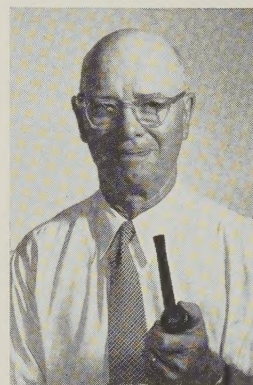
Company soon after leaving college as a mechanical engineer. Andy earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Illinois in 1932 and his M.S. in 1933. He was President of Central Illinois Chapter in 1946 and general chairman of the 65th Annual Meeting. He has four children, all of school age. Andy was born in Peru, Illinois in 1909.



William S. Gray

William (Bill) S. Gray, Joliet Chapter, followed Scotty Rogers on the Board on March 28, 1953. Bill lives in Joliet and commutes via Rock Island to Michigan Avenue daily where he is a gas measurement engineer for the Peoples Gas, Light and Coke Company. He became a State member of the Society in 1945 and transferred to National in 1953. Bill has a wife who is a collector of antique hollow ware, and they have a family of two girls, the last of whom was born

early this year. He earned a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Armour Institute of Technology in 1936. Bill was born in Chicago just before the beginning of World War I.



George R. Thatcher

George R. Thatcher, Madison County Chapter, became a member of the Board at the beginning of the 70th year of the Society in Rock Island in March 1954. He received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering at the University of North Dakota in 1915. In 1943 he came to the Koppers Company, Inc., as a maintenance engineer and is at present with that company in Granite City, Illinois, doing electrical and mechanical engineering for them. Like many

engineers, George is a confirmed pipe smoker. He was born in North Dakota in 1892.

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JOLIET OFFERS ASSISTANCE

As a civic project, the Joliet Chapter made an offer to the School Board to lend its professional experience in the study of engineering requirements survey. That is, the Chapter committee will examine present facilities and project the needs, advising the School Board on the best and most efficient use of the space now available, and the space which will become available in the future. The School Board has accepted the offer of the Joliet Chapter.

A year ago the Central Illinois Chapter's offer of assistance was accepted by the Decatur schools, the result being a substantial saving to the taxpayers and a better engineering-wise use of money available.

Projects similar to these are very worthwhile. In most instances the School Board will be happy to receive the help, and the engineer will benefit by a more careful use of his tax dollar. Chapters who are interested may get the details from President L. W. Keeler of Joliet Chapter or President Vail Moore of Central Illinois Chapter.

Old Hollywood proverb: When a woman meets a man who looks her straight in the eye, she'd better do something about her figure.

—Ersikine Johnson, *Photoplay*.

ALDEN OPENS SOUTH AMERICAN OFFICE

Vern E. Alden Company, Engineers, 33 North La Salle Street, Chicago, has formed a new corporation in Venezuela for the purpose of doing engineering and construction work in South America. The name of the new company is Vern E. Alden Engineering and Construction Company of Venezuela, C.A. (Alden Company of Venezuela is the abbreviation), and it will have headquarters in Caracas.

Mr. Alden (N '50 member Chicago Chapter), Senior Partner of the Chicago firm and President of the new company, has just returned from Caracas where he successfully negotiated two contracts with the Texas Petroleum Company to take over their activities relating to building and maintenance of roads and well locations, and other earthmoving work. The new company also plans to do engineering and construction in a wide variety of industrial fields.

Mr. F. Ivar Wennerholm, Senior Partner and Construction Manager of the Chicago firm and Vice President of the new company, is currently in Venezuela getting the work for Texas Petroleum under way. Mr. G. W. Young, General Manager, and Mr. A. H. Chamberlain, Superintendent, respectively, of the new company, accompanied Mr. Wennerholm to Venezuela where the latter two will make their permanent residence.

FOURTH EDITION

Professional Engineering Examination Questions

The new book contains all of the questions given in the three previous editions plus Typical questions from exams given in the Spring and Fall of 1953 and 1954.

THE PRICE—\$1.50 post paid. Use the coupon:

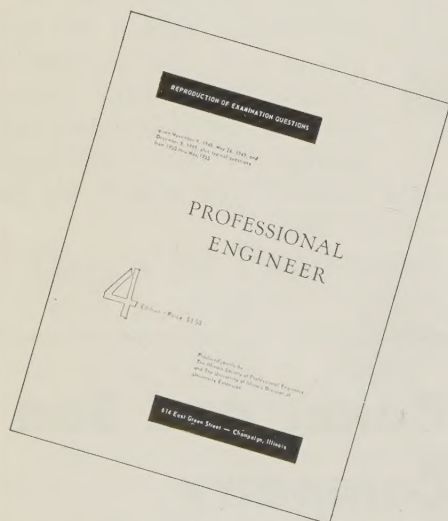
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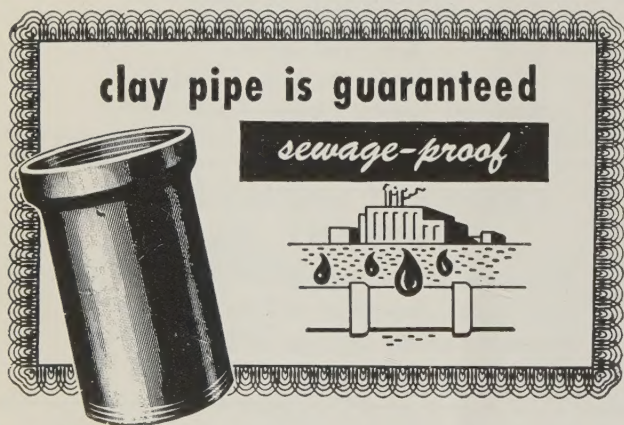
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